Dear Jim (aka Middleman), I have heard nothing from Bud about my books sold at his Georgetown fiasco. I presume you gave him the accounting. When you told me that he had been robbed, Ifelt an accounting was needed. I have kept the books I brought back to themselves. Each was a full box to begin with. Each had the printers' count on it. While I also presume there is no question about my count, because of the theft I felt it would be better to keep these boxes apart from the o hers. Meanwhile, I need the $$$. as always. In this case I'll need it for the interest payment to the bank now due very soon if I have not received the settlement check from Dutton by then. If I have gotten that check, I have other needs for this. The snow reminds me. I am accumulating a stack of tree-trunks to be sawed up for firewood. The sawing is getting to be a problem. It is not only that I want these for heat, which I do. It is that I can't have a brush fire outside. But with these sawed up, days Lil works, which soon will be all weekdays, I'll be able to keep the place warm enough with just the fireplace. It will guzzle more wood than I can shop-cut down. So, I want to get one of the new, small and light chain saws. And for the rest there are urgent needs that have not been met. So, if there is some delicate way in which you can remind him, I would appreciate your letting Bud know I need and want the check. I would imagine that for his purposes he would want to pay before the end of the year anyway.I don't know why people with money always delay paying what they owe. But they do, and they have a way of disliking it when those they have not paid ask for payment. ...Brown says Acoca has propositioned him on co-authoring his CIA expose. He thinks he'll accept... therwise, only the snow is new. HW 12/16/73